

City Council Minutes

September 9, 2002

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session on Monday, September 9, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Saager, Lyon, Kelley, Woods and Humbert. Staff members present were City Manager Delphine Palmer, Assistant City Manager Linda Hall, Police Chief Mike Gallaher, Emergency Communication Supervisor Jeannie Walker, Fire Chief Faron Reynolds, Finance Director Dave Richmond and Public Works Superintendent Howard Moss. Citizens present were Curtis Walter, Pat Thomson, Ellen DeGross, John Short, Merle Sherman, Mary Clark, Mike Onstot, Ed Chesnut, Sally Woods, Bonnie Vogan and others. Representing the press was Jeff Durham of the Blue Mountain Pioneer.

Consent Calendar Items: August 26, 2002 council meeting minutes.

Councilor Saager moved to accept the consent calendar. Councilor Woods seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Lewis Key announced to the audience that this was the opportunity for citizens to approach the council with concerns not on the agenda. None approached.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO.1903. Authorizing signature to ODOT Agreement No. 19,843 for \$1,277,122 in funding for Highway Preservation and Modernization. Public Works Superintendent Howard Moss said that this agreement had been reviewed by the City's legal counsel, Doug Hojem, and the agreement is similar to other agreements the City has had with the State. The modernization begins at the traffic light at SW 2nd Avenue and ends in a northerly direction on Lamb Street, North of Powell Road. The \$1,277,122 in funding is basically overlaying the existing asphalt, cutting out some bad parts and conformance to the American Disabilities Act creating the necessary ramps at each intersection. Mr. Moss would like to add a sidewalk around the therapy shop by Burger Hut. Most of this work will be done in the Spring and the larger portion of the project will be on Lamb Street from NE 8th Street to the North City limits. There will be some work done on the bridge over Hudson Bay ditch from November through February as this ditch cannot be shut down in the Spring. There is an issue in engineering right now to determine whether the bridge will need to be replaced. This is all within the \$1,277,122.00 grant which project is 100% grant funded.

Councilor Saager asked if this project funding covered water mains and hydrants. Mr. Moss stated it cannot include infrastructure other than adjustments of water valves and manholes. The water main project the City will be doing by OK Tire Store is one of the top priorities because it's a leaker, but it is not funded by this project. The water main project will be done by City crews and rented equipment in October or November.

Councilor Humbert asked Mr. Moss if he were comfortable with the milestones set and Mr. Moss said he was very comfortable as the State had asked him to set the

milestones and said also he expected this construction to be done within this fiscal year.

Councilor Lyon asked Mr. Moss if there would be any difference in the maintenance; will it cost more or less. Mr. Moss said he thought that in the short-term (30 years) the cost should be negligible.

Councilor Saager asked if the lining, crosswalks and railroad crossings would be the City's responsibility for the expenses after this project is finished. Mr. Moss said that for the length of the project, the cost would be ours, but the City won't be responsible for the traffic light.

Councilor Humbert asked for clarification that the City was responsible for most of the maintenance now. Mr. Moss said that the City was responsible for maintenance of crosswalks and railroad street signs within the City limits.

Councilor Lyon asked what the right-of-way was, if it were 60 feet. Mr. Moss said it was 60 feet with 13 power poles (5 need removed).

Councilor Humbert said he read in Contract #19,843, #13. Utility relocation or reconstruction may or may not be an eligible Project expense according to the following standard:

a. The expense is an eligible expense if the owner of the utility facility possesses a property right for its location on the public right-of-way.

The expense is not an eligible expense if the owner of the utility facility does not possess a property right for its location, but the facility exists on the public right-of-way solely under the permission of the Agency or other road authority, whether that permission is expressed or implied, and whether written or oral.

After Councilor Humbert read the above portion of the contract, he asked Mr. Moss if the expense was eligible. Mr. Moss said that it could be, but that it was not included in the original estimate for the project cost. Mr. Moss said it was a good project for this 36 foot width. Mr. Moss further said he would prefer 40 feet, but that it was not in the budget.

Councilor Woods asked Mr. Moss about the 40 foot width. Mr. Moss said that certainly he would like to have 4 feet added to the project only to the extent that it would allow unrestricted parking on both sides of the street. Councilor Woods asked what the cost would be to extend the project 4 feet. Mr. Moss said he thought approximately \$100,000.00.

Councilor Humbert asked Mr. Moss if the purpose of council's action during this meeting was to approve the grant, and that council could discuss the addition of 4 feet at a later date. Mr. Moss said that the purpose of council's action this evening was in fact to approve the grant, that council could discuss any additional measurements at a later date.

Mary Clark, 604 N. Main, added to the discussion saying that having two sidewalks will be wonderful because schools are busing the children in this area because the road now is so dangerous. With the installation of the sidewalks, these children will be able to walk to and from school.

Councilor Kelley asked Mr. Moss about the power poles affecting design due to placement and asked how far out this begins. Mr. Moss said that the first five plus poles on Lamb Street have good alignment and then they veer into the area needed

for sidewalks about 3 to 4 feet. The poles that just need bumped over are about \$3,000.00 each.

Councilor Kelley moved to adopt Resolution No. 1903, authorizing signature to Agreement 19843 with Oregon Department of Transportation, 2001 Oregon Transportation Investment Act, Milton-Freewater Highway Preservation/Modernization Section. Councilor Lyons seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BID AWARD Phase III of Waste Water Treatment System-Storage Pond Improvements. Public Works Superintendent Howard Moss stated this would be an addition of a 46 million gallon storage pond at the waste water farm primarily to replace two leaking ponds that didn't qualify for the minimum seepage requirements of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. This will also increase the capacity from 38 million to 45 million gallons of water storage. All of our waste water, both industrial and domestic, is land applied on our operating farm. None of the effluent goes into a stream.

Mr. Moss suggested that instead of financing this project for 20 years, that the project be financed for 10 or 15 years, saving the City approximately \$50,000.00 annually. Councilor Saager asked if this would have a plastic liner and Mr. Moss said he had abandoned the plastic liner and instead the base of the pond will be constructed of a soil/bentonite mix that is tilled in with agriculture equipment. The side slopes are 4 to 1 and looks like a sandwich of fibrous material that has bentonite in between. This material is rolled out in 15 foot sections across the slopes. Rock about 6 inches in diameter protects the slopes along with a layer of rip rap.

Councilor Humbert moved to award the bid of Phase III of Wastewater Treatment System-Storage Pond Improvements to R&G Excavating, Inc. of Scio, Oregon in the amount of \$1,087,828.00. Councilor Kelley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION of Retention of 9-1-1 Dispatch Center. Police Chief Mike Gallaher stated this review is to inform citizens and council what the City is facing with the proposed 9-1-1 consolidation which has been enacted through House bill 3977 during Oregon's 2001 Legislature. This act targets counties with more than 1 Primary Safety Answering Point (PSAP). Umatilla County has 3 PSAP's. These three PSAP's have to submit to Oregon Emergency Management a written plan for consolidation of the 3 PSAP's into 1 PSAP including requirements for facility, equipment and personnel. Legislature's intent by the 2001-2003 biennium, is to funnel all revenues generated by the 9-1-1 tax into one PSAP in each county. An existing PSAP such as ours which is not the recommended PSAP for our county, but elects to remain as a PSAP may do so at our own expense. State standards will have to be met as per Administrative Rule as set by Oregon Emergency Management. If the City elects to become a secondary PSAP, the State would continue to provide the connection between the Primary PSAP and our PSAP at their cost, but the City would be required to maintain the local equipment as required by Administrative Rule. If the City becomes a secondary PSAP, all 9-1-1 calls from local homes and businesses would initially go to the primary PSAP, which is proposed to be located in Pendleton at either the dispatch center or the Umatilla County Sheriff's office; then those calls would be transferred to our city after identifying it was a Milton-Freewater 9-1-1 call needing police, fire or ambulance service. Chief Gallaher is concerned with this process and has expressed his concerns

at the Umatilla County level with sheriffs and their dispatch personnel, with the steering committee that was set up to work on this consolidation mandate, and also Oregon's Emergency Management. Chief Gallaher stated he felt his concerns fell on deaf ears because the response of Oregon's Emergency Management was that they would act upon the mandate of the legislature. Chief Gallaher's concerns are his objection to the loss of revenue and the disruption of direct emergency communication between our community and dispatch. Chief Gallaher outlined estimates of costs from Oregon Emergency Management to maintain primary PSAP would be around \$80,000.00 annually in addition to the cost of our dispatch center. This includes system upgrades, mapping and repairs. For now, our 9-1-1 Dispatch center receives aid from Oregon's Emergency Management when equipment breaks down. Chief Gallaher further stated that the estimated cost to maintain our status of a primary PSAP, the first-year cost would be an estimated of \$129,429.00 and the second-year cost would be an estimated cost of \$80,000.00. This cost would include the loss of 9-1-1 Tax Revenue of \$29,282.00 which the City receives quarterly. To become a secondary PSAP, the estimated cost would be \$37,449.00 annually and would also include the loss of 9-1-1 Tax Revenue of \$29,282.00. Chief Gallaher said he had concerns of the anticipated delay in services via transfer of 9-1-1 calls from the primary PSAP to the secondary PSAP and that the City of Hermiston also shared this concern and opted not to sign the agreement of September 1st. The City of Hermiston is trying to find a way to keep their primary PSAP. Chief Gallaher said that unless Oregon Legislature has a change of heart within the next 11 months, the City of Milton-Freewater will have to determine whether we will incur the cost of maintaining a primary PSAP center or convert to a secondary PSAP center. Either decision will be an additional cost to the City.

Councilor Humbert asked why the additional cost would be to the City when the City maintains its 9-1-1 dispatch unit already, that he does not comprehend the State's estimated cost of \$80,000.00 annually to maintain a communication system. Chief Gallaher said these estimates were from Oregon's Emergency Management and that the city needed to conduct their own cost estimates.

Mayor Lewis Key asked if this equipment was here physically that the State comes in to maintain. Chief Gallaher said that the receiving part of it is, that the City has an enhanced computer that helps identify via 9-1-1 where the actual calls are coming from. Right now 9-1-1 calls are going to a reading station and are directly transferred to the City. What the State is proposing is to take the automatic reading away and consolidate it into one dispatch center which will coordinate the calls and then reissue to their appropriate location.

Councilor Humbert stated that his own personal view was to check with our main phone service and find out if they have 9-1-1 capabilities, that he is not ready to give up our local 9-1-1 service when the county has not proved itself in other areas in the past.

City Manager Delphine Palmer stated that having lived in a City where the county had already taken over the 9-1-1 system, that there was no control over personnel, that dispatchers reported to the county. Locally, dispatchers report to a supervisor and if their performance is poor, the supervisor has the ability to terminate. The second issue, just last year in the City of Newport, the county arbitrarily doubled the cost of

the dispatch services. After several meetings, the county could not justify the cost, but the cost remained the same. When trying to start-up a dispatch center after closing one down, the cost is impossible.

Councilor Saager stated he had heard numerous complaints about 9-1-1 calls to the county, that they have had hang-ups for up to 3 calls to make connections with 15-20 minute delays, only to find an officer was not on duty. Councilor Saager suggested that our City Manager work very closely with the City of Hermiston and perhaps visit with legislators and explain our unique situation. Councilor Saager feels that those who administer the 9-1-1 program need to be more flexible.

Councilor Kelley asked who the person was that is investigating this issue. City Manager Delphine Palmer stated that Chief Gallaher has been the person thus far that has done the investigating. Councilor Kelley stated there needed to be a plan in place.

Councilor Saager said he found it interesting and easy to isolate Milton-Freewater and have the rest of the county in Pendleton. Further, he feels this could not be a major expense as it is too easy to add additional services to our phone systems.

City Manager Delphine Palmer said the City would investigate these issues.

Councilor Woods asked if the City would go through a consultant or straight to the bid. Chief Gallaher stated that first, he would contact the City of Hermiston to gather information they have received from their consultant. Then Chief Gallaher would contact Qwest to determine what prohibitions they have with guidelines from Oregon Emergency Management.

Councilor Humbert stated that we not only needed to contact Qwest, but also the City's phone service company. Councilor Humbert also stated he didn't feel there could be any reason why the City could not have their own 9-1-1 system.

Mayor Key asked about cell phone usage stating that when dialing 9-1-1 on a cell phone, it goes to the county. Chief Gallaher said that if your cell phone is a 509 area code, it will go to Walla Walla County and if your cell phone is a 541 area code it will go to Umatilla County. Councilor Saager said that if you have to call for emergency services on a cell phone, that individuals should dial the complete 938-5511 number direct to dispatch here.

Councilor Kelley said that Walla Walla County was adding a \$0.50 tax on cell phones effective January 1st as a 9-1-1 tax reporting that if citizens in Milton-Freewater had a 509 area code based cell phone, those taxes would support Walla Walla County.

Mary Clark, 604 N. Main, said that there was another phone service in our area other than Qwest and that she would get the name of the company for the City.

Councilor Kelley said she feels a real urgency to gather information and pass that information on by next council meeting and if the rest of council is agreeable with this, she would like to see this accomplished soon. Council agreed.

DISCUSSION Retaining a Second City Attorney. City Manager Delphine Palmer said she had mentioned several times since she has been here to retain a legal consultant that can be here at some of our council meetings and to have employment law counsel as well. Ms. Palmer clarified that the City would not use an attorney for labor negotiations which had been published in one of the papers. Ms. Palmer said she had good relationships with the City's labor managers, and she doesn't want legal

intervention to slow the normal process and add to the City's cost. Ms. Palmer said that she wanted to see Doug Hojem as our City Attorney to deal with public work and electric issues, but then to have a local attorney that specializes in employment law and hopefully planning issues. We would like this attorney to attend Council and Planning meetings when necessary and also be able to meet with us at the City on call. Because of cost plus mileage, we do not use Doug Hojem. Ms. Palmer thought the City could retain a local attorney at a more reasonable rate. The budget was increased to retain another attorney for this purpose. Ms. Palmer said she had spoken with Doug Hojem at length regarding this issue and said Mr. Hojem is very open to the idea. Mr. Hojem would even aid in finding someone who is very qualified.

Councilor Saager said he would like Ms. Palmer to pursue this issue and get costs to report back to council. Council agreed.

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Delphine Palmer said she would report during the URA meeting.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

There were none.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor

September 23, 2002

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session on Monday, September 23, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Lyon, Kelley, Woods and Humbert. Councilor Saager was out of town. Staff members present were Assistant City Manager Linda Hall, Electric Superintendent Mike Charlo, Police Chief Mike Gallaher, Fire Chief Faron Reynolds, Finance Director Dave Richmond and Public Works Superintendent Howard Moss.

Citizens present were Mike Onstot, Diane Koranda, Merle Sherman, Charlie Good, Kathy Clough, Kelly Hahn and others.

Representing the press were Jeff Durham of the Blue Mountain Pioneer and Jeannine Koranda of the East Oregonian.

Consent Calendar Items: Included in the consent calendar are

a) September 9, 2002 council meeting minutes, b) Resolution No. 1904 Authorizing Signature to Intergovernmental Agreement with Umatilla County for Receipt of \$4,920.00 in video lottery grant funds, c) Resolution No. 1905 Authorizing Signature to Amendment #1 of Local Agency Fund Exchange with Oregon Department of Transportation for Receipt of Program Funds for Improvements to North Main Street, and d) Approval of Liquor License Application by La Casita for corporation name change only. Councilor Kelley moved to accept the consent calendar. Councilor Lyon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Lewis Key announced to the audience that this was the opportunity for citizens to approach the council with concerns not on the agenda.

Mike Humbert, Humbert Refuse and Recycling, is looking into purchasing large trailers for demolition waste. Because the City's landfill is closed, citizens sometimes deliver multiple loads to Humbert's landfill. Mr. Humbert said that by using the large trailers, they could be distributed and Humbert Refuse could take to their landfill one large

load at a time. Mayor Key suggested he speak to Public Works Superintendent Howard Moss. Mr. Moss stated that there was a franchise agreement that says outside sources can provide solid waste to industrial customers, which Humbert Refuse does. Mr. Moss further stated he was protective of the current solid waste system as it meets DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) regulations and is running smoothly. Mr. Moss stated that at an earlier time, he was going to recommend to council that Humbert Refuse be offered the drop-box system to slow the landfill tonnage rate; however, after the landfill was closed the concern was eliminated. Mr. Moss said he could write a report if directed, but his feelings now were to leave the system as is. Mayor Key asked why the City couldn't take care of the demolition refuse. Mr. Humbert said that when someone demolishes a building and trucks the refuse to Humbert's landfill, Mr. Humbert would like to bring a truck in to help with the hauling of refuse. Mr. Humbert stated if he could not do this, he would hold the purchase of the 120-yard trailers. Councilor Woods asked if the goal for the landfill is to keep the tonnage down. Mr. Moss agreed. Councilor Woods then asked what would be the problem if Mr. Humbert took all of the demolition tonnage. Mr. Moss stated it would not be a problem, but the franchise agreement would have to be amended. Mr. Moss suggested that council request a report from himself and get back to council at a later date. Councilor Woods continued saying the City was not trying to reach the 20-ton maximum and Mr. Moss said that was true, that the tonnage was kept at 12 to 13 tons to protect the requirement of less than 20 tons. Councilor Kelley stated she thought the discussion meant losing revenues. Mr. Moss said that the City could lose some revenue. Councilor Lyon asked Mr. Humbert how soon he would need action. Mr. Humbert said by the next meeting or perhaps up to a month from now. Councilor Lyon then asked Mr. Moss if he could do a quick study and report back to council. Mr. Moss said he could and Council agreed to have this done.

Mayor Lewis Key proclaimed October to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 1906 Supplementing General Fund, Fire Department, and
RESOLUTION NO. 1907 Transferring Funds due to Unforeseen Expenditures. Fire Chief Faron Reynolds stated that prior to adopting this fiscal year's budget, the Fire Department along with Grant Writer Mike Watkins filed an application for grant monies to purchase wildland personal protective equipment. This grant requires a 10% match of about \$1,500.00 to receive \$13,835.00. Mayor Key asked what wildland personal protective equipment was. Chief Reynolds explained that they were boots, pants, shirts, hats, gloves and goggles or face shields that are all lighter weight to work more efficiently in grass and wildland, especially in warmer temperatures. Chief Reynolds also stated the protective clothing was required by OSHA. Assistant City Manager Linda Hall expressed to Mayor Key and council that this was an opportunity for the City to obtain the necessary protective clothing needed for our firefighters for only 1,500.00.

Councilor Kelley moved to adopt Resolution No. 1906 supplementing income to the General Fund by a Firefighting Grant. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Councilor Kelley then moved to adopt Resolution No. 1907 Transferring funds due to unforeseen expenditures. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION To Award Financing for Phase III of the Waste Water Treatment System

Upgrade. Public Works Superintendent Howard Moss stated that at the last council meeting, council awarded the construction for Phase III and now council needed to take action on the financing of the Phase III Waste Water project. Mr. Moss gave the council some background stating that in 1996, sewer rates were raised to \$5.80 per month in anticipation of paying the debt service back for loans incurred during the three phases of the Waste Water project. A \$750,000.00 grant was obtained and phase II of the project costs were trimmed. Phase III will also come in well under the budget. Reserves have been collected from the \$5.80 monthly charge of about \$500,000.00. Mr. Moss proposed that the City use approximately \$200,000.00 in reserves and add a \$1.2 million dollar loan from Community Bank at 4.49% interest, with a payoff in 10 years. Councilor Woods asked if the interest rate would be the same for 20 years. Mr. Moss said that with Baker Boyer Bank, the interest would be fixed for 10 years, but would increase if extended. Community Bank was fixed interest with no loan fees. Councilor Lyons asked if Mr. Moss was proposing number 2 on the fact sheet and Mr. Moss concurred after a brief discussion. Mayor Key asked when the project would begin. Mr. Moss said probably late October and construction could last through March with a winter shut-down. Mayor Key asked if the loan could be taken out as the work is done. Finance Director Dave Richmond said that was possible as it would be treated like a line-of-credit. Councilor Woods asked if there would be a pre-payment penalty on the loan. Mr. Richmond said that had been part of the discussion, but there would be windows of opportunity. After three years the City could decide and perhaps could prepay a decided amount agreed upon between both contracted parties. A discussion ensued between Councilor Woods and Mr. Moss regarding reserves and a 10-year versus 20-year loan without a prepayment penalty. Councilor Humbert stated he understood the discussion, but was against the arbitrary action to determine payoff at a later date. Councilor Humbert felt that payoff of this loan should be decided so there would not be any misunderstanding 5 or 10 years later. Councilor Kelley said she was in agreement with the 10-year contract. Councilor Kelly moved to enter into a loan agreement with Community Bank for \$1,200,000.00 utilizing reserves up to \$200,000.00 for the planned 10 years. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 1908 Authorizing Signature to Engineering Contract with ESA for Design of the Milton Substation Renovation. Electric Superintendent Mike Charlo said this was an award of a contract for engineering services to our normal electric consulting firm for the amount of \$59,700.00 to provide engineering design services for the renovation of the Milton Substation. The Cobb Road substation is a newer-larger substation. The Milton substation is a smaller-older substation with parts from 1940 which are undersized and during peak times of the year it is fully loaded and even sometimes overloaded. The plan has been to renovate and enlarge the Milton substation to handle any growth in the south portion of town. The expenses would be spread out over 3 to 5 years. Within 2 to 3 years the actual renovation of the substation would take place. In 3 to 5 years the plan is to replace the transformers,

which is not included in this plan. The City's line crew would do all the construction. With the work done on the Freewater substation and the renovation on the Milton substation adding in the Cobb Road substation, any growth for the next 20 years could be handled well, according to Mr. Charlo. Councilor Humbert asked if this were the only bid for design engineering. Mr. Charlo stated that according to purchasing regulations for engineering services, the City is not required to go after bids. Mr. Charlo further explained that with engineering firms, there is a wide range of services and when a particular firm knows your system well and the City is pleased with their work, the firm should be used. Councilor Woods asked if the reason to renovate wasn't more due to the inability to replace older parts versus the increase in capacity. Mr. Charlo said this was true, that there was a part called a metal-clad switch gear placed in 1940 and there are no replacement parts available. Councilor Woods discussed with Mr. Charlo what may happen if the transformer went out sooner than later and Mr. Charlo explained there were reserve funds available for such emergencies. Councilor Woods then asked if the lead time for transformers were 6 weeks and Mr. Charlo said that for small transformers it would be 6 weeks, but for the large transformers at the substations, the lead time would be 6 months. Mr. Charlo further explained that construction would continue over 3 fiscal years and that the engineering cost would be over 2 fiscal years.

Councilor Kelley moved to adopt Resolution 1908 authorizing signature for the engineering contract with ESA for design of the Milton Substation renovation in the amount of \$59,700.00 on a not-to-exceed basis. Councilor Woods seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 1909 Authorizing Signature to Engineering Contract with ESA for design of SCADA System and Related Programming Services. Electric Superintendent Mike Charlo explained that the SCADA system the City has now helps run the electric and water system within the City. The computer is connected to all the water wells, reservoirs, and substations. Pumps are automatically turned on and off due to the reading of water levels. A computer operator can locate the operation of the pumps from a keyboard. The original system was purchased in 1985 and the cards are the original cards. There are some problems with the software that the electric department is working with, but the company ILEX has had a change in management being purchased by a larger company and their customer service policy has changed drastically. The company has told the City that they will no longer support the cards that were purchased in 1985. Because of the need for an almost complete hardware replacement, it was decided to replace the software with a system that others could work with rather than just the initial software supplier. Mr. Charlo further explained that another portion of this was the fiber-optic lines for communication with the substations and to provide telephone and computer connection to the City Shop. Councilor Humbert asked if this only included the design and programming. Mr. Charlo concurred. Councilor Humbert asked if the fiber-optic lines would go underground. Mr. Charlo said that because the City owns the poles and a number of streets would have to be torn up, the plan is to place the optic-fiber lines overhead. Councilor Humbert strongly stated his thoughts in favor of underground fiber-optic lines. Mr. Charlo said that issue had not been decided and that the designers may have feed-

back as well. Councilor Woods asked if Mr. Charlo knew the cost of the SCADA system. Mr. Charlo said the system would be approximately \$140,000.00 including the design. Councilor Kelley moved to adopt Resolution 1909 Authorizing signature of a contract with ESA for design of the SCADA System and Related Programming Services in the amount of \$49,898.00 on a not-to-exceed basis. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant City Manager Linda Hall reported in City Manager Delphine Palmer's absence. With regard to the retention of the 9-1-1 dispatch center, she will be meeting with Hermiston's consultant hopefully this week.

Ms. Hall also reported that a letter from Umatilla County's Sheriff Mr. Trumbo, was received today, who would like to meet with Council members and Ms. Palmer. Mr. Trumbo would like to bring with him the manager of his dispatch center Ms. Liuellen.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Councilor Woods said he wanted to thank those involved in bringing the "Dollar Store" into our community. He said he toured the facility and felt it will be a good addition to our City.

Public Works Superintendent Howard Moss reported to council regarding the street maintenance discussed at the last council session. Mr. Moss said that on the section on Lamb Street that council questioned the width and if that could be added to. Mr. Moss said he had to stay within the budget to accomplish the project. He further said that a species of ornamental trees had been decided. The tree, *Pyrus calleryana* "Aristocrat" or Flowering Pear tree does not produce fruit, are hardy and drought tolerant, low maintenance, and low growth.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor